

we have today in our modest homes. The floors were inlaid hardwood in artistic patterns and each floor and ceiling were different in design. The doors were hand-carved, trimmed with heavy metal hardware. There were stairways with many steps to climb and a special room where weapons of every kind were on display. We walked through the living quarters of the guards and soldiers, the carriage room and the prison dungeon, all under the same castle roof. I let my imagination wander as I contemplated the many events that possibly had taken place in this castle where death sentences were meted out, where many children were born and raised, where sickness and death were a reality, where all the problems and emotions of earth life were experienced.

As we had entered the Castle, we were told we could put our coats and packages in a corner of the entrance while we toured the castle. As we returned, we found that nothing had been disturbed in spite of the many people coming and going.

After the tour of the castle, we walked to the Romanesque Church of Spiez, above the lake on the spur of the rock peninsula where the castle is situated. The Church was erected at the turn of the Tenth and Eleventh Century. The crypt beneath the Church has been preserved in its original form. We stepped down a flight of stairs from the chapel to the crypt beneath the main choir. This Church has a unique architectural style. The Fresco murals are significant and are more than a thousand years old. We saw the memorial tablet with the Epitaph of Franz Ludwig Von Erlach and the mausoleum of Sigmund Von Erlach. Restoration work of this Church was directed by D. M. Stettler. The Romanesque period was a time of great Catholic pilgrimages. The uneducated peasants looked upon the churches as being symbolic of heaven. The Frescos of Christ with the Apostles at his side helped them to visualize a heaven of grandure and seemed to alleviate the poverty of their existence.

We walked from the Church to the boat dock. We visited and